

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 3 and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement.

Claims 1, 2, 4-6, and 8 are allowed.

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

Applicant proposes to cancel claims 3 and 7 without prejudice or disclaimer by this amendment. Upon entry of this paper, claims 1, 2, 4-6, and 8 will be pending.

The Disposition of the Claims

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's allowance of claims 1, 2, 4-6, and 8 as indicated at paragraph 4 of the Final Office Action. In addition, Applicant proposes to cancel claims 3 and 7 without prejudice or disclaimer by this amendment. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests the entry of this Amendment to place the application in clear condition for allowance or, in alternative, in better form for appeal. Applicant also respectfully requests the Examiner's reconsideration and reexamination of the application and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Should there remain any questions or comments regarding this response or the application in general, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

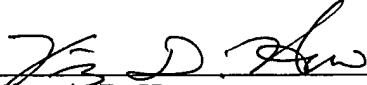
If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

Dated: November 21, 2003

By: _____


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